

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0036374-07-0

Permittee: Lake Tomahawk Township Sanitary District 1, PO Box 387, Lake Tomahawk, WI, 54539

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Lake Tomahawk Township Sanitary District 1, 7848 Pine Road, Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: The Wisconsin River in the Rhinelander Flowage Watershed in the Upper Wisconsin River Drainage Basin in Oneida County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Lake Tomahawk Sanitary District owns and operates a wastewater treatment system with an annual average design flow of 53,700 gallons per day. The actual average discharge is 23,000 gallons per day (June 2015- June 2020 data). Wastewater (influent) generated from each home enters grinder pump pits where it is pumped and conveyed through pressurized pipes to the wastewater treatment plant. In addition to residential homes and small local commercial establishments, wastewater treatment for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections McNaughton Camp facility is also conveyed and treated by the Lake Tomahawk Sanitary district. At the wastewater treatment plant, the influent flows into settling chambers used for settling and sludge storage. The wastewater from the settling chambers then travels to a dosing chamber before treatment by a recirculating sand filter (RSF). Wastewater is evenly distributed over one or more of five filter beds constructed of layers of fine and coarse sand. Naturally occurring microorganisms living on the sand particles within the filter beds further treat this water. The water from the filters may be sent back to the dosing chamber and filtered again multiple times. After recirculation and re-filtration, the treated effluent is disinfected seasonally (May – September) using an ultraviolet system prior to discharge to the Wisconsin River. The solids from the settling chambers are pumped regularly to prevent the discharge of accumulated solids to the sand filters. These solids are considered septage and are regulated under NR 113, Wisconsin Administrative Code, for septage disposal

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be December 31, 2025. Appropriate discharge limitations, monitoring requirements, and reporting conditions will be included in the permit. Changes from the previous permit include: [1] Fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits. An interim fecal coliform limit is in effect until the end of a schedule. [2] Currently there are three methods used to determine if a phosphorus limit is needed: a technology based effluent limit (TBEL) and a water quality-based effluent limit (WQBEL) determined by stream criteria and a WQBEL based on a Total Daily Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). In the case of Lake Tomahawk Sanitary District, the TMDL based WQBEL Waste Load Allocation (WLA) is the only limit needed to protect the immediate receiving water. The treatment plant is currently not capable of achieving the WLA; therefore, a schedule to attain these limits has been included. [3] Based on the “Guidance for Total Nitrogen Monitoring in WPDES Permits” annual effluent monitoring for Total Nitrogen (Total Nitrogen = Total Kjeldahl + (Nitrite+Nitrate)) is required for municipal and industrial facilities discharging to surface waters. [4] The permittee discontinued discharging to groundwater in 1999. The groundwater quality has improved to a point where monitoring has been replaced with annual inspections

Permit Drafter's Name, Address and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Austin Griesbach, DNR, 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501, (715) 495-1336, Austin.Griesbach@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. Currently, DNR staff are working remotely and have very limited access to US mail. To ensure comments are received, the Department recommends that all comments be sent via email to the permit drafter listed in this notice. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, is accessible via e-mail by contacting the above named permit drafter's e-mail address or the above named basin engineer's e-mail during normal business hours Monday through Friday (except holidays). Note that DNR staff have limited access to permit hard copy files during this time as they are working from home, but much of the permit file is available electronically by e-mail request. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Lakeland Times

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 790, Minocqua, WI 54548-0790

Date Notice Issued: October 20, 2020

# STREAMLINED PUBLIC NOTICE VERSION FOR NEWSPAPER

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0036374-07-0

FOR THE COMPLETE PUBLIC NOTICE AND DETAILS GO TO THE WEB LINK:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>

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Brief Facility Description: The Lake Tomahawk Sanitary District owns and operates a wastewater treatment system that consists of a recirculating sand filter (RSF). After recirculation and re-filtration, the treated effluent is disinfected seasonally using an ultraviolet system prior to discharge.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Austin Griesbach, DNR, 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander, WI, 54501, (715) 495-1336, Austin.Griesbach@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the permit drafter's address. Currently, DNR staff are working remotely and have very limited access to US mail. To ensure comments are received, the Department recommends that all comments be sent via email to the permit drafter listed in this notice. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule an informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats. Information on requesting a hearing is at the above web link.

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